



# Liberia, Costa Rica

Photo: Inspired By Maps/Shutterstock.com



Nicholas Courtney/Shutterstock.com

Liberia, both the capital and largest city of Guanacaste province, is — despite its lower profile — the country's major centre for tourism, as well as a regional hub of Costa Rica's northwest. The town attracts visitors from all over the world thanks to its beautiful natural surroundings, interesting architectural heritage, and a rich culture.



Gianfranco Vivi/Shutterstock.com



L11324/Wikimedia.org

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### Santa Rosa National Park

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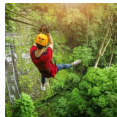
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## THE CITY



*Patrick Nouhailer/Flickr.com (image cropped)*

Nicknamed 'la ciudad blanca' ("the white city"), after the white gravel that was once used to build the city's roads and the bleached colonial houses, the city no longer retains much of its white hue, despite many of the buildings still standing. Thousands of tourists flock to Liberia every year, and in contrast to old-time travelers who used to pitch their tents here centuries ago, the visitors of today see Liberia not merely as a stopover on a longer journey, but a prime destination for experiencing the rich and diverse culture of the country's high north.

Liberia experienced around 150 years of a most interesting history: founded in 1769 as a strategic settlement between the roads leading from Rivas, Bagaces and Nicoya, the city not only formed itself without a legal act, but was also caught in between the countries of Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Holding ties with Nicaragua until 1826, Liberia (formerly Guanacaste, until 1854) grew in importance that further increased after being adjoined to Costa Rica, and it has held the status ever since.

Today, Liberia's city centre features modern buildings as well as multiple attractions of its unique cultural heritage, while the surroundings boast beautiful nature with a rich flora and fauna.

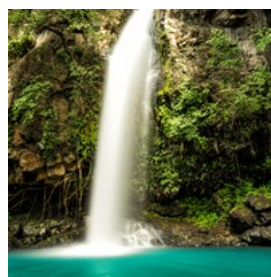
## DO & SEE



*Tizianok/Wikimedia.org (image cropped)*

With its historic buildings and a growing cultural scene, Liberia boasts a lot of opportunities to learn about its rich history and culture — start your stroll at Calle Real, Liberia's oldest street, to see where it all began, and where renovation and expansion are already planned ahead. The town makes an excellent launch pad for exploring the nature and beaches nearby (and farther afield), as well as getting around the impressive province of Guanacaste for a deep dive into the diversity of Costa Rica and its unfathomably beautiful nature.

### Rincón de la Vieja National Park



Only 24 km (15 miles) northeast of Liberia, the Rincón de la Vieja National Park is a display of ecological diversity that spreads over more than 34,000 acres with two volcanoes, 32 rivers and streams, and an incredible variety of flora and fauna. While guided hiking and horseback riding trails will allow you to come closest to Costa Rica's impressive wildlife, you can also take a day-long hiking trip to the top of the Rincón de la Vieja volcano and witness its activity, as well as take in the great views of the Nicoya Peninsula and the Lago de Nicaragua.

Photo: Nicholas Courtney/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Rincón de la Vieja, Guanacaste Province  
Opening hours: Tue-Sun 8am-3pm, Mon closed  
Phone: +506 2666 0630  
Internet:  
[www.sinac.go.cr/EN-US/ac/acg/pnrv/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.sinac.go.cr/EN-US/ac/acg/pnrv/Pages/default.aspx)

### Palo Verde National Park



The Palo Verde National Park is located 45 km (28 miles) south of Liberia. Over 300 species of birds, including Costa Rica's largest population of waterbirds call this park their home.

Mischievous monkeys, cute coatis and toothy crocodiles are here as well. Take a boat tour of the Tempisque river to appreciate the unique ecosystem in this part of Guanacaste.

Photo: mana5280/unsplash.com  
Opening hours: Daily 8am-4pm  
Phone: +506 2206-5965  
Internet: [www.visitcostarica.com/en/costa-rica/where-to-go/protected-areas/palo-verde-national-park](http://www.visitcostarica.com/en/costa-rica/where-to-go/protected-areas/palo-verde-national-park)

### Barra Honda Caves



Barra Honda is unlike any other of the National Parks of Costa Rica: its main draw is an extensive, intricate system of limestone

caverns, adorned with a variety of whimsical forms and figures. It took underground streams over 70 million years to carve out this natural wonder.

Speleologists and spelunkers from around the world are drawn to Barra Honda. The deepest of the caves — Santa Ana — drops to 249 m (817 ft) below the surface, while La Trampa has the deepest precipice - a 30 m (98 ft) vertical

entrance. Not for the fainthearted!

Photo: Jed Owen/unsplash.com  
Opening hours: The park: daily 8am-4pm; Caving: 8am-1pm (descent)  
Internet:  
[www.sinac.go.cr/EN-US/ac/act/bhnp/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.sinac.go.cr/EN-US/ac/act/bhnp/Pages/default.aspx)  
More Info: [nicoyapeninsula.com/naturereserves/barrahonda](http://nicoyapeninsula.com/naturereserves/barrahonda)

### Santa Rosa National Park



Santa Rosa National Park northwest of Liberia is one of the oldest natural reserves in Costa Rica, founded in 1971 to protect the natural habitat: the savanna, deciduous forest, marshlands and mangrove woodlands.

Nestled in the Gulf of Papagayo, and reaching far into the ocean's depth, the park and its beaches are great for watching sea turtles coming ashore, while the inland boasts a whole different variety of flora and fauna, such as the flowering Bignoniaceae trees and howler monkeys.

Photo: EQRoy/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Santa Rosa National Park, Guanacaste Province  
Opening hours: Daily 8am-3:30pm  
Phone: +506 26 665 051  
Internet:  
[www.sinac.go.cr/EN-US/ac/acg/pnsr/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.sinac.go.cr/EN-US/ac/acg/pnsr/Pages/default.aspx)

### Ponderosa Adventure Park



Ponderosa Adventure Park is private wildlife reserve that allows you to get close and personal with more than 290 exotic animals, and to enjoy both the calming nature and thrilling adventures. Besides getting to know the country's fascinating variety of flora and

especially fauna, horseback riding trips and zip-line rides are only some of the other experiences that await you here.

Photo: Tong\_stocker/Shutterstock.com

Address: Salto, Guanacaste Province

Opening hours: Daily 8am-5pm

Phone: +506 2288 1000

Internet: ponderosacostarica.com

### Guanacaste National Park



East of Santa Rosa National Park, this park is a bird watcher's paradise for a good brisk walk or a leisurely stroll along its winding paths right into the woods. While looking out for exotic birds and their nests, you can also spot other park dwellers such as Capuchin monkeys or collared peccaries, and thus explore Costa Rica's wildlife at its best.

Photo: Jorge A. Russell/Shutterstock.com

Address: Guanacaste National Park, Guanacaste Province

Opening hours: Daily 8am-4:30pm

More Info:

[costa-rica-guide.com/nature/national-parks/guanacaste-np](http://costa-rica-guide.com/nature/national-parks/guanacaste-np)

### Gulf of Papagayo Beaches



waterside pursuits.

The Gulf of Papagayo and its coastline are a major tourist magnet. Thanks to its splendid beaches, Guanacaste province is an excellent choice for

Playa Panamá is one of the most attractive beaches in Guanacaste province, perfect for enjoying a swim as well as beautiful views over the ocean — take a walk along the shore, and savour drinks and treats only a stone's through

away.

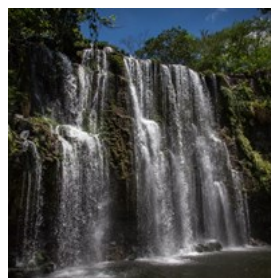
Playas del Coco is laid-back during the day but vigorous at night, so a great night out after a chilled day of sunbathing can best be enjoyed here. Do also try out some of the water sports practiced here.

Playa Hermosa is a grey sand beach perched between two mountains and, in fact, seldom as crowded as its neighbours. Head here for having a calm day in tranquil surroundings.

Photo: Simon Dannhauer/Shutterstock.com

Address: Gulf of Papagayo, Guanacaste Province

### Llanos del Cortés Waterfall



Visiting a waterfall is on almost every traveler's bucket list but finding one in the rather flat and dry region around Liberia might seem like a

challenge. And yet, Llanos del Cortés raises its magnificent cascades in the middle of nowhere, amidst arid landscapes, and it barely has any comparable rivals — at least within Costa Rica.

Photo: Mike Baird/Flickr.com(image cropped)

Address: Llanos del Cortés, Guanacaste Province

### Ermita de La Agonia Church



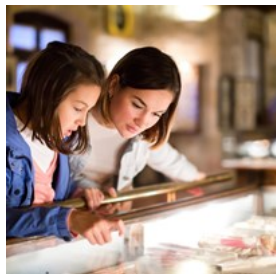
Right in the heart of Liberia, this ancient church is a jewel of beauty from days gone by, which still remains of great significance for the

people of Liberia today. A remnant of Liberia's spirited past, this cultural sanctuary allows you to catch a breath after a day of sightseeing and take in its devotional and inspiring atmosphere.

Photo: Kognos/Wikimedia.org(image cropped)

Address: Parqucito de La Agonia, Liberia

### Guanacaste Museum



The Guanacaste Museum is committed to safeguarding the natural, social, ethnic, cultural and artistic history of the province. Featuring

temporary exhibitions as well as various projects that are all meant to preserve the area's history, this former city jail boasts an authentic experience of Costa Rica's rich culture by displaying both interesting artefacts and architectural exhibits.

Photo: Iakov Filimonov/Shutterstock.com

Address: Museo de Guanacaste, Avenida 1, Calle 2 & 4, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Daily 8am-4pm

Phone: +506 8360 6081

Internet: [www.museodeguanacaste.org](http://www.museodeguanacaste.org)

Email: [museodeguanacastecr@gmail.com](mailto:museodeguanacastecr@gmail.com)

### Simbiosis Spa



After experiencing a volcano visit at Rincón de la Vieja National Park, take the experience one step further by immersing yourself into a volcanic

mud bath or swimming in a volcanic clay water pool. Apart from massages and treatments all featuring volcanic by-products, the Simbiosis Spa at Hotel Hacienda Guachipelin also offers a sauna where you can reach an even deeper state of relaxation.

Photo: Josep Suria/Shutterstock.com

Address: Rincón de la Vieja, Guanacaste Province

Opening hours: Daily 7am-6pm

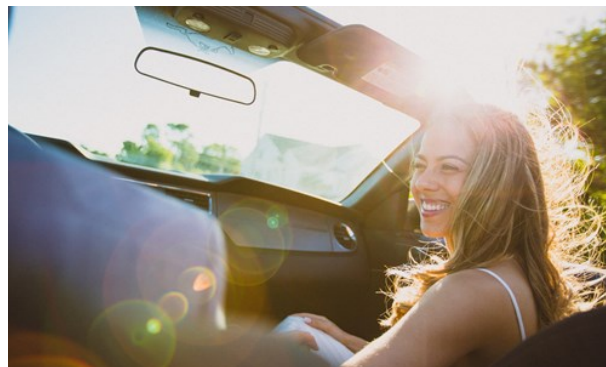
Phone: +506 26 902 900

Internet:

[www.guachipelin.com/relaxation/simbiosis-spa-hot-springs](http://www.guachipelin.com/relaxation/simbiosis-spa-hot-springs)

Email: [info@guachipelin.com](mailto:info@guachipelin.com)

### TOP DAY TRIPS FROM LIBERIA



*Wendell Fernandes/unsplash.com*

The town of Liberia is your gateway to countless amazing destinations. A short bus or car trip will take you to beaches, waterfalls, national parks, wildlife, adventure tours, and plenty of other exciting places. Here are just some of the most exciting and convenient day trip ideas for your next trip.

### Conchal Beach



Conchal Beach is considered by many to be one of the most exotic beaches in Costa Rica. Its brilliant white colour comes from small broken

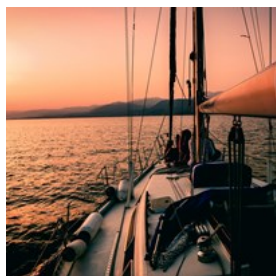
shells and coral. The sea is crystal clear with turquoise blue undertones. The beach is located just 2 km from Playa Brasilito and very close to Flamingo and Tamarindo.

Apart from working on your tan and snorkelling, you can book a horse riding tour.

Photo: Lindsay Loucel/unsplash.com

Address: Playa Conchal, Guanacaste Province

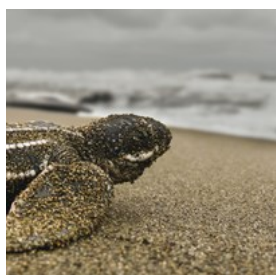
### Town of Tamarindo



Tamarindo is a fairly small beach town, known for beaches with strong surf like Playa Tamarindo and Playa Langosta within walking distance from downtown. Playa Negra and Playa Avellana are slightly further away, but can easily be reached by car. Nature lovers won't want to miss Playa Grande to the north — it is a major nesting site for huge leatherback turtles. Visitors can enjoy miles of soft, pristine sand and crystal-clear waters, helping to give the region its reputation as a tropical paradise.

Photo: Markos Mant/unsplash.com

### Las Baulas National Park



Las Baulas National Park offers an often-overlooked natural getaway just outside the crowded beaches of Tamarindo.

Take a tour of the park's vast network of mangrove forests on a relaxing boat trip — howler monkeys, crocodiles and tropical birds will be your companions on this trip. Head to the beach for a chance to see the magnificent leatherback turtles. The turtle nesting season is from October till February.

Except for the turtle nesting season (October-February), which is allowed to stay on the beach until 5:00 PM.

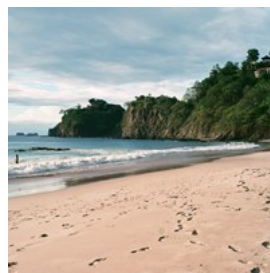
Photo: Max Gotts/unsplash.com

Address: Parque Nacional Marino Las Baulas, Guanacaste Province, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Daily 6am-6pm. From October to February (turtle nesting season) beaches close at 5pm

Internet: [www.sinac.go.cr/ES/ac/act/Paginas/Parque-Nacional-Marino-Las-Baulas.aspx](http://www.sinac.go.cr/ES/ac/act/Paginas/Parque-Nacional-Marino-Las-Baulas.aspx)

### Flamingo Beach



The Flamingo Beach is one of Costa Rica's most popular beaches with fine white sand, clear clear blue waters, lagoons, vegetation and lots of

activities on offer. The coastline is dotted with secluded beaches with mountains jutting out into the sea and creating quiet and secluded lagoons.

The area is possibly best known for its scuba diving opportunities. There are several dive shops in town which provide service to the Catalina Islands and the Bat Islands. The waters around these islands are teeming with marine life, including the majestic giant pacific manta.

Photo: Chris Wronski/Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Playa Flamingo, Guanacaste Province, Costa Rica

### Nicaragua



If visiting just one country per trip is not exciting enough for you — hop over to the neighbouring Nicaragua! Discover the natural

beauty and the cultural heritage of Granada — the oldest colonial city in the Americas that is still thriving in its original location. On your way there, visit the active Masaya Volcano and the extinct Apoyo Volcano, cruise by boat to small islands on Lake Nicaragua.

Tours include border-crossing assistance and hassle-free transportation for the smoothest experience possible.

Photo: Azzedine Rouichi/unsplash.com

### Las Catalinas



Las Catalinas is a new beach town developed in 2006 along the shores of the Pacific Ocean. Its purpose is to create a way of life that is healthy, sustainable, fulfilling and fun. In practical terms, it means that Las Catalinas was founded based on the principles of New Urbanism — a compact, car-free and fully walkable town within easy reach of the beach. A maze of small shaded streets connects houses, shops, restaurants, small hotels and inns, pedestrian streets, plazas, parks, and recreational facilities — all surrounded by a lush rainforest.

On the other side is the Pacific Ocean you'll find two of the finest beaches in all of Costa Rica with great swimming, stand up paddle boarding, kayaking, boogie boarding, and snorkelling. Don't miss out on the opportunity to go diving next to Las Catalinas islands!

Photo: kajikawa/Wikimedia Commons(image cropped)  
Address: Las Catalinas, Guanacaste Province, Costa Rica  
Internet: [www.lascatalinas.cr](http://www.lascatalinas.cr)

### Del Coco Beach



Playas del Coco is one of the oldest beach communities in Guanacaste Province, located about 32 kilometres (20 miles) from the town of Liberia. The beaches here are known for the beautiful sunsets — the beach faces north so there is always a shadow and the sun sets over the hills or in between land and an island. Enjoy relaxed atmosphere, paved sidewalks, tree lined beach walks and a gradual surf.

Photo: Devon Hawkins/unsplash.com  
Address: Playa Del Coco, Guanacaste Province, Costa Rica  
Internet:  
[www.vacationscostarica.com/travel-guide/coco-beach](http://www.vacationscostarica.com/travel-guide/coco-beach)  
More Info: Locals refer to Playas del Coco affectionately as "El Coco"

### DINING



Yulia Grigoryeva/Shutterstock.com

Dining in Liberia can be as distinct as its culture, and as most Costa Ricans love good food, dining out can become a great opportunity to mingle with locals. Make sure to try jugo de caña (sugar cane juice) and copos (snow cones), and take a stroll around town to locate your own hidden gems of authentic cooking.

### Liberia Social



The Liberia Social restaurant has it all: from delicious dishes making up a huge menu to a great atmosphere forged by impressive furniture and tasteful decor. With fresh ingredients and ideas when it comes to flavours and tastes, this venue and its most friendly staff will definitely draw you back in again — the wine selection certainly works towards it.

Photo: Africa Studio/Shutterstock.com  
Address: Calle 7, Avenida 25 de Julio, Liberia, Costa Rica  
Opening hours: Mon-Sat noon-10pm, Sun closed  
Phone: +506 2665 4050

Internet: [liberia-social.business.site](http://liberia-social.business.site)

### Restaurante Jauja



Jauja serves authentic Costa Rican cuisine along with dishes from all over the world, all making for an extensive menu that calls for more than just a single visit. Come hungry, as the generous portions can easily feed two. Live music played some nights.

Photo: [EQRoy/Shutterstock.com](https://www.shutterstock.com/author/EQRoy)

Address: Calle 10, Avenida 25 Julio, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sun 11:30am-10pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 2665 2061

Email: [juanpabloberrocalsalazar@gmail.com](mailto:juanpabloberrocalsalazar@gmail.com)

### El Patio



El Patio is a great open air restaurant way off the beaten path. Most guests order set menus, like the menu ejecutivo — with falafel, grilled veggies and fried yuca. Grab a table outdoors on the lush terrace and say hi to Roberto, the resident cat.

Among other things, El Patio offers good WiFi and is popular for its high protein vegan and vegetarian dishes.

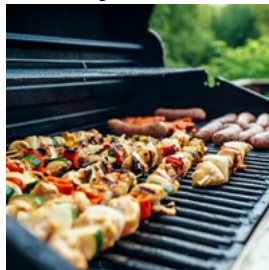
Photo: [Suad Kamardeen/unsplash.com](https://www.unsplash.com/author/SuadKamardeen)

Address: 200 m north of the Ermita de la Agonia, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 11:30am-3pm / 6pm-9pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 4034 6245

### El Callejero



El Callejero is an unpretentious eatery that is run from a food truck, but with plenty of covered outdoor tables. The theme of the menu is roughly Texan barbecue, but you can also enjoy some Mexican salads and poke bowls, plus local beers.

Photo: [Evan Wise/unsplash.com](https://www.unsplash.com/author/EvanWise)

Address: Coast-west of the Hector Zúñiga Rovira park, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Tue-Sun 11am-9pm, Mon closed

Phone: +506 2665 4111

### Sabor Porteño



Sabor Porteño is a famed seafood restaurant: delicious food, pleasant atmosphere and excellent service! Your biggest difficulty will be choosing among the dozens of great looking plates. The ceviche porteño comes highly recommended, as does the shrimp and avocado salad, paired with mango juice.

Photo: [Andrés Medina/unsplash.com](https://www.unsplash.com/author/AndrésMedina)

Address: Calle 2, Avenida 8, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Tue-Sun noon-3pm / 6pm-9pm, Mon closed

Phone: +506 2665 6851

Internet: [marisqueria-sabor-porteno.negocio.site](http://marisqueria-sabor-porteno.negocio.site)

### Tierra Mar Liberia



The Tierra Mar in Liberia specialises in Peruvian ceviche and all manner of seafood dishes. You'll find comfortable decor, a broad and creative selection of menu choices, generous portions,

and first rate quality in taste and presentation. The bar is well-stocked with an array of mixologist recipes with native juices as added flavour.

Photo: Ting Tian/unsplash.com

Address: Avenida 1, Calles 4 & 6, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon, Tue & Thu-Sun 11:30am-9:30, Wed closed

Phone: +506 6335 5407

### Los Comales



Los Comales is one of the best sodas (local budget-friendly lunch restaurants) in town! You'll get traditional Costa Rican fare: the most tender and juicy pechuga (chicken breast) with side of beans, two salads, rice, tortilla. This is the best place in town to try Gallo Pinto for breakfast. If you're especially hungry that day, order a side of maduros con queso frito (pan-fried plantains with fried cheese).

Photo: Mariordo (Mario Roberto Durán Ortiz)/Wikimedia Commons(image cropped)

Address: Calle Central, Avenidas 5 & 7, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 6:30am-9pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 2665 0105

More Info: There's a second location next to the Hector Zúñiga Rovira park

### CAFES



*Free-Photos/Pixabay.com (image cropped)*

The Guanacaste region has excellent coffee. The dramatic mountainous geography gives local coffee beans a smooth body with light acidity and defined bitter and salty notes.

Third wave coffee shops have only now started popping up in Liberia, but that doesn't mean that coffee connoisseurs will be left wanting. Plenty of cafes serve cups of delicious liquid gold prepared the traditional way. Many cafes also serve light meals.

### Donde Pipe



This low-key cafe serves everything from fresh salads and Costa Rican wraps to home-baked cakes and shakes, with a cantina-style buffet to pick and choose from. Self-service.

Photo: EM Karuna/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle 8, Avenida 3, Liberia, Costa Rica

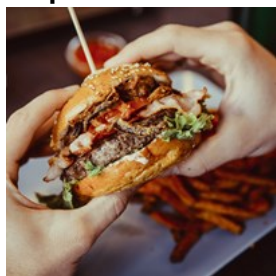
Opening hours: Daily 7am-6pm, Tue from 11am

Phone: +506 26 654 343

Internet: [www.dondepipe.com](http://www.dondepipe.com)

Email: [info@dondepipe.com](mailto:info@dondepipe.com)

### Coquitos Cafe



Start with one of Coquitos Cafe's fresh salads before savouring a burger, pasta or Costa Rican specialties, and do not forget to finish off with a piece (or two) of their wonderful cakes — in fact, the sweet treats are already worth the visit all by themselves.

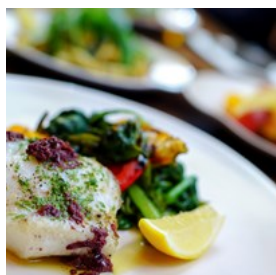
Photo: veryulissa/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Central, Avenida 7, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 11:30am-7pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 8964 4380

### El Pilón



El Pilón is a great find for seafood lovers, as their menu always features fresh catch and great drinks to enjoy them with. Take a seat at their

wooden tables within the dark-tiled dining room, and soak in a laid-back yet classy atmosphere, preceding it with, perhaps, an aperitif at the bar.

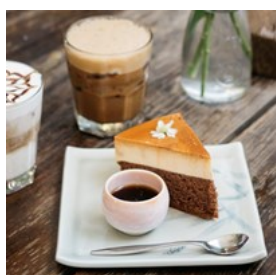
Photo: zhgee/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle Central Rafael Iglesias, Avenida 5, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7:30am-3pm

Phone: +506 2666 0616

### CoffeeHouse Liberia



Located on a street corner, the CoffeeHouse offers a good selection of food, drinks and air conditioning, which can be very important if you still haven't adjusted to local climate. The place is fairly modern yet retains the quaint charm of a small town cafe.

Photo: Haydn Golden/unsplash.com

Address: Avenida 4, Calle 4, Liberia, Costa Rica

Internet: [www.coffeehousecr.com/the-coffee-house.html](http://www.coffeehousecr.com/the-coffee-house.html)

### Kaffee-tal



Kaffee-tal serves excellent espresso-based drinks and pastries, some of which are German-inspired. The quality of their coffee is

widely praised not only by visiting coffee enthusiasts, but also by vacationing professional baristas. This cosy cafe is a peaceful oasis in the (slight) craziness of Liberia. The owners are amazingly friendly and speak good English.

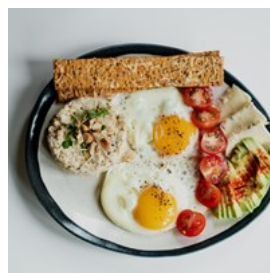
Photo: Seven Dimensions/unsplash.com

Address: Avenida 3, Calle 3, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am-6pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 8794 2697

### Posada Real



Posada Real serves amazing gluten free food from a beautifully renovated colonial house. Come by for their delicious breakfasts and

one of the best-fried banana ever.

Photo: Nick Samoylov/unsplash.com

Address: Calle Centra, Avenida 2, Liberia, Costa Rica

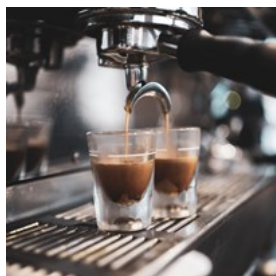
Opening hours: Mon-Sat 8am-7pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 2665 0219

Internet: [posadarealcafe.com](http://posadarealcafe.com)

More Info: The menu is gluten free, but you can still buy some beer

### Café Avenida 4



Café Avenida 4 has arguably the best prepared espresso in Liberia. The venue itself is beautiful, with covered outdoor seating and lots

of plants. Great place to relax with a cup of coffee and a brownie while reading a book or chatting with friends. WiFi is available too, in case you want to upload some fresh photos to your insta.

Photo: Chase Eggenberger/unsplash.com

Address: Avenida 4, Calle 10, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 1pm-9pm, Sat 2pm-9pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 6269 6014

## BARS & NIGHTLIFE



TORWAISTUDIO/Shutterstock.com

Nightlife in Liberia happens — outside the resorts — in bars and small pubs, neighbourhood dive bars where locals and tourists come to socialise over a drink. Start off at a bar around the corner, and see where the night will soon take you — it will likely be across several good spots in town.

### Maderos Brewery



The Maderos Brewery is living proof that the craft beer scene is alive and well Costa Rica, and the owner Doug is very knowledgeable on the

subject. Only a short drive out of Liberia, just north of the city, this bar is absolutely worth a visit — don't miss out on the well-selected variety of beers and accompanying snacks.

Photo: IntoTheWorld/Shutterstock.com

Address: 125 m north of the bridge over Santa Inés river, along the Interamericana highway, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Wed-Fri 4pm-10pm, Sat & Sun 4pm-9pm, Mon & Tue closed

Phone: +506 2666 4243

### Bar La Selegna



This bar is one of the city's most popular meeting places. Head here for a couple of drinks, to catch a game broadcast or wash down some quality pub grub with a few chilled beers.

Photo: Syda Productions/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle 6, Avenidas 7 & 9, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Daily noon-midnight

Phone: +506 2666 0029

### Victory Bar



Victory Bar is an unpretentious dive bar popular with local crowd. Ice-cold beers, well-rounded menu and generous portions. Don't

miss this authentic Tico experience.

Photo: Elevate/unsplash.com

Address: Calle 7, Avenida 2, Liberia, Costa Rica

Phone: +506 2666 7116

### Marijuana Restobar



Marijuana is a Mexican restaurant and bar in a shopping centre. Apart from great drinks, they serve excellent ceviche. The restaurant opens

earlier than most places in Liberia, so it's also an excellent choice for breakfast after a busy night out. Vegetarians, vegans and carnivores will all leave satisfied!

Photo: Pablo Escobar/unsplash.com

Address: Santa Rosa Plaza Shopping Mall, Shop # 37, Plaza Santa Rosa, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 7am-9pm, Sun 11:30am-9pm

Phone: +506 2665 7217

More Info: Located in the Santa Rosa Plaza Shopping Mall

### Bar Julia



Julia is another honest local watering hole. Cold beers, friendly smiles and good rhythms. They offer a decent menu, too — great place for a family dinner in a relaxed atmosphere.

Photo: Patrice S Dorsainville/unsplash.com

Address: Avenida 23, Calles 15 & 17, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Daily 11am-midnight

Phone: +506 2666 8918

### Palermo Sports Bar



The Palermo sports bar has a down-to-earth vibe. It's popular with sports fans and families.

Multiple big screens, both indoor and outdoor

seating and great local cuisine to keep you going

till late in the night.

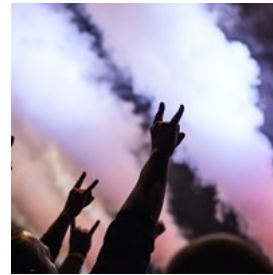
Photo: Mpho Mojapelo/unsplash.com

Address: Avenida Central, Calle 3, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Daily noon-11pm

Phone: +506 2665 8463

### Palavicini Rock Pub



If you've grown a bit tired of rancheras and reggaeton tuned, head to the loud and unapologetic Palavicini — the only rock pub in Liberia. Party hard

and shout your lungs out to rock and metal hits, then cool down with a cold beer or keep the party going all night with artisanal shots.

Photo: Luuk Wouters/unsplash.com

Address: Avenida 7, Calle 13, Liberia, Costa Rica

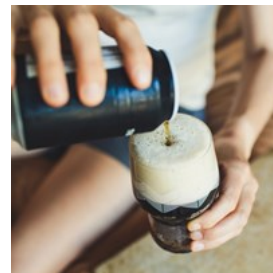
Opening hours: Mon-Wed 6pm-midnight, Thu & Fri

6pm-2:30am, Sat 5pm-midnight, Sun closed

Phone: +506 8702 0277

Internet: [restaurante-pub-rock-palavicini.business.site](http://restaurante-pub-rock-palavicini.business.site)

### Numu Brewing Company



Numu is a cool brewery in industrial park very close to Liberia airport. Try their beers (and fall in love with their IPA), get a few cans to go.

Their restaurant offers great food, too. The venue is pretty sizeable, so Numu is a great option for big groups.

Photo: Markus Spiske/unsplash.com

Address: Solarium Logistics Center, 19F Through main security gate. Left for 50 m, then right for 200 m, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat noon-6pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 4703 9621

Internet: [www.numubrewing.com/](http://www.numubrewing.com/)

## SHOPPING



Curioso/Shutterstock.com

While the manifold variety of restaurants and cafes will introduce you to Costa Rican food customs, the city's shops will allow for a glance at local culture and craft tradition. Stroll along the town's streets, and drop into tiny shops that draw your attention.

### Santa Rosa Plaza



This shopping mall, right at the entry point to Liberia when coming from (or heading to) the airport, offers great variety when it comes to

fashion and accessories, along with a range of cafes and restaurants bound to suit your taste. You can find both everyday necessities as well as unique souvenirs all under one roof.

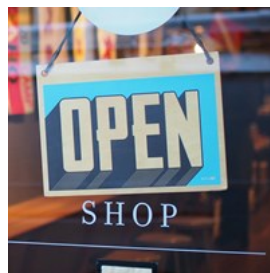
Photo: ESB Professional/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle 20, Highway 21, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Daily 8am-10pm

Phone: +506 2665 7079

### Ranas Surf



Once you're ready to explore rain and cloud forests, natural parks and hike up the volcanos, hit the beach and ride the surf, you will find yourself in need of some quality gear. Head to Ranas Surf for great selection and quality, as well as expert advice.

Photo: Mike Petrucci/unsplash.com

Address: Calle Central, Avenidas 25 de Julio & 2, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 9am-7pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 2666 2371

### Country House Liberia



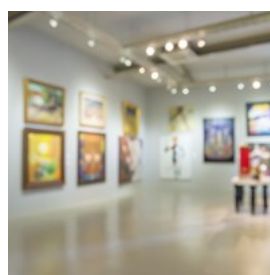
Country House Liberia offers an awesome selection of fresh vegetables and fruits. Prices are comparable or better than Maxi Pali and Walmart while you also get better quality and the ripest and juiciest produce.

Photo: engin akyurt/unsplash.com

Address: Avenida 5, Calle Central, Liberia, Costa Rica

Phone: +506 2666 3850

### Hidden Garden Art Gallery



This gallery is an art lover's paradise, and a great spot for picking up unique pieces: 15 rooms full of paintings, sculptures and diverse products of artistic expression. More than 65 artists have contributed to the great idea of supporting the region's art development with more than 400 pieces on display, and while some of them are on sale, others are just there to be

admired.

Photo: Pla2na/Shutterstock.com

Address: Highway 21, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Tue-Sat 10am-4pm

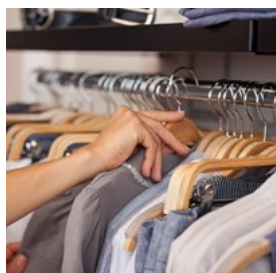
Phone: +506 8386 6872

Internet: [www.hiddengardenart.com](http://www.hiddengardenart.com)

Email: [info@hiddengardenart.com](mailto:info@hiddengardenart.com)

More Info: This gallery is around 5 km west to the airport.

### Nahúa



This boutique offers brands exclusively of Costa Rican artists and designers, and the items on sale — ranging from clothes to accessories for men, woman and children — are executed in detail and are of excellent quality. While Liz, the owner, can tell a story about each piece, you will probably find a most unique gem that will conjure up its own story in your imagination.

Photo: stockfour/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle 2, Avenida 25 de Julio, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun closed

Phone: +506 2666 1666

### Café Tío Leo



Coffee lovers should head to Café Tío Leo for high-quality coffee beans sold by staff with comprehensive expertise. Just drop in on the way to

or back from the beach, and encounter a world that revolves around the beloved black beans and aromatic brews. Coffee can be sampled on-site.

Photo: mavo/Shutterstock.com

Address: La Gran Nicoya, Guardia, Guanacaste Province

Opening hours: Daily 8am-6pm

Phone: +506 2667-0062

Internet: [www.cafetioleo.com](http://www.cafetioleo.com)

More Info: Tío Leo offers daily tours of their plantation. Book ahead!

### Souvenir Ocarina



This quirky shop is a hidden gem in Liberia, selling handcrafted items and artisan works that all range from carefully carved sculptures to cloth bags and glass work. Head here for browsing through the venue's abundant offer, and for finding that special souvenir to bring back home.

Photo: Riderfoot/Shutterstock.com

Address: Calle 4, Avenida 25 de Julio, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: A bit unclear. Call ahead and ask

Phone: +506 2666 1515

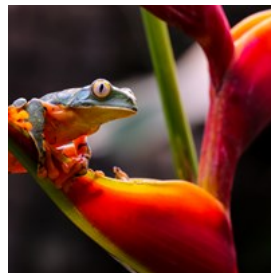
Email: [galeriaocarina@gmail.com](mailto:galeriaocarina@gmail.com)

## TOURIST INFORMATION



Gianfranco Vivi/Shutterstock.com

### Best Time to Visit



The best time to visit Costa Rica is during the dry season, from mid-December to April — you'll get plenty of sunshine, ideal for exploring rainforests and beaches. However, the

dry season is the most crowded and expensive time to visit.

The rainy season lasts from May to November, with incessant rain showers — it is the cheapest season to visit. During June and July, rain showers stop briefly and the forests burst with green foliage.

The Annexation of Guanacaste Day is celebrated on July 25th with major parades, performances and festivities.

Photo: David Traña/unsplash

### Addresses



Most towns in Costa Rica use a rectilinear roadway grid. The roads going north and south are called calles (streets) while the ones going east and west are called avenidas (avenues).

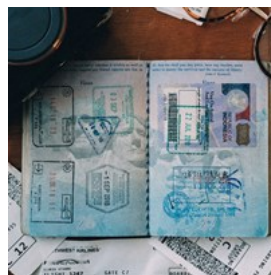
Let's pretend that Calle Central is number 0. From there, calles count up by odd numbers to the east and even numbers west. Avenidas have odd numbers north of the pedestrian Avenida Central and even going south. Parque Central and Mercado Central (Central park and market) are usually at the centre of town.

Many addresses will be written down as Calle 4, Avenidas 4 & 6 — somewhere on the north-south street 4 between avenues 4 and 6.

However, many businesses will describe their location in relation to major landmarks like parks, stadiums and other big businesses.

Photo: L11324/Public Domain/Wikimedia (cropped)(image cropped)

### Passport / Visa

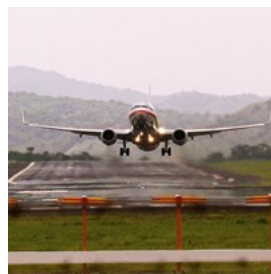


Citizens of the European Union as well as from Australia, New Zealand, North America, and most countries in South America do not require a visa to visit Costa Rica. Visitors with a valid, multiple-entry visa or residence permit issued by any country of the European Union, Canada or the United States can also visit without a visa, for a stay of 30 days maximum. Other visitors' requirements in order to enter Costa Rica depend on their nationality, and these can be checked with your local consulate.

Photo: ConvertKit/unsplash

Internet: [www.visitcostarica.com/en/costa-rica/planning-your-trip/entry-requirements](http://www.visitcostarica.com/en/costa-rica/planning-your-trip/entry-requirements)

### Liberia International Airport (LIR)



The Daniel Oduber Quirós International Airport is located around 13 km west of Liberia. As a hub for visitors of the Pacific coast and Western Costa Rica in general, the airport features every service needed, from ATM and money exchange services to small food venues and car rental companies. Liberia's city centre, and the airport on the way home, can be reached by public buses that operate daily from 6am to 6pm, as well as by official taxis (red) and private shuttle services.

Keep in mind to check whether the departure tax for Costa Rica - US \$29.00 - is already included in your air plane ticket, as if not, you have to pay it upon arrival.

Photo: Bernal Saborio/cc by-sa 2.0/Wikimedia (cropped)(image

cropped)

Address: Liberia Airport Boulevard, Guanacaste Province

Phone: +506 2666 9600

Internet: [www.lircr.com](http://www.lircr.com)

Email: [info@guanacasteairport.com](mailto:info@guanacasteairport.com)

More Info: Also known as Guanacaste Airport and Daniel Oduber Quirós International Airport

## Public Transport



A large public bus network serves Liberia, linking the city with Jan José, the beaches and the Nicaraguan border: while the Pulmitan de Liberia station is the hub for travels to the capital and the beaches, the Municipal station serves destinations close or within Nicaragua. Both stations are located within two blocks of each other, and both provide schedules while tickets can be bought directly on board the buses.

Getting around the city centre is easily done on foot, as most downtown attractions are within easy reach from each other.

Photo: The LEAF Project/Public Domain/Wikimedia

## Taxi



Most taxi companies essentially serve as shuttles operating between the city center and International Airport, as private transportation generally isn't needed to get around town (unless your accommodation happens to be farther afield).

Liberia Shuttle can also be booked for other travel occasions.

Photo: Guanlong D./cc by 2.0/Flickr (cropped)

Address: Calle 8, Avenida 6, Liberia, Costa Rica

Phone: +506 88 626 407

Internet: [www.liberiashuttle.com](http://www.liberiashuttle.com)

## Post



The main post office of Correos de Costa Rica can be found right in the city centre. It provides every service needed: from selling stamps to sending packages. At the Aeropost centre nearby, certain services are offered as well:

### Aeropost

Avenida 5, Liberia, Costa Rica

+506 26 654 764

Open Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-1pm, Sun closed

Private shipping services, such as DHL, are also available and best for sending valuables and/or speedy deliveries.

Photo: Ali Bakhtiari/unsplash

Address: Calle 8, Avenida 3, Liberia, Costa Rica

Internet: [aeropost.com](http://aeropost.com)

## Pharmacy



Despite its compact size, Liberia features many pharmacies with different services. While Farmacia San Rafael Arcangel in the centre of Liberia is open 24/7, keep in mind that opening hours can significantly vary for other locations:

Another solid option: Farmacia Elimar Liberia

Avenida 1, Liberia

+506 26 661 900

Open Mon-Sat 8am-8:30pm

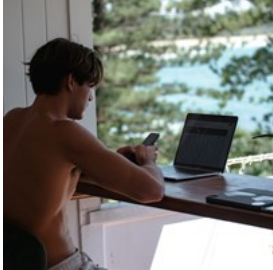
Photo: Mariano Baraldi/unsplash

Address: Avenida Central, Calle 3, Liberia, Costa Rica

Opening hours: 24/7

Phone: +506 2690 5544

## Telephone



Country Code: +506 Area  
Code: 26

Photo: Mark Broadhead/unsplash

## Electricity



Costa Rica uses 110 volt,  
60 cycle electricity. The  
plugs are typically the  
2-pronged flat type  
common in North  
America and some Asian

countries.

Photo: Kelly Sikkema/unsplash

## Population

55,000

## Currency

1 Colón = 100 Céntimos

## Opening hours

Opening hours in Liberia significantly vary from business but most shops are open Mon-Fri 10am-4pm. Bigger shops may open on Sundays as well, while smaller ones may also close for midday breaks.

## Internet

[www.visitcostarica.com](http://www.visitcostarica.com)

## Newspapers

In English: Tico Times — [ticotimes.net](http://ticotimes.net)

Diario Extra — [www.diarioextra.com](http://www.diarioextra.com)

La Nación — [www.nacion.com](http://www.nacion.com)

La República — [www.larepublica.net](http://www.larepublica.net)

## Emergency numbers

Emergency Number: 911

Police: 117

Ambulance: 128

Fire Brigade: 118